

REMARKS

Applicants have amended the specification in view of the examiner's comments. It is believed the amendment addresses the objections raised by the examiner.

~~The examiner has indicated claims 3 and 5 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants have amended claim 1 to include the limitation of claim 3 which has been canceled. Claim 4, 5, 19 and 20 depend either directly or indirectly on claim 1. Accordingly, claims 4, 5, 19 and 20 are also believed to be in condition for allowance.~~

Applicants note that claims 13-18 were previously withdrawn. Claims 13-18, however, depend either directly or indirectly on claim 1. Accordingly, applicants submit rejoinder of the claims is appropriate.

In view of the above, claims 1, 4, 5 and 13-20 are believed to be in condition for allowance, notice of which is respectfully urged.

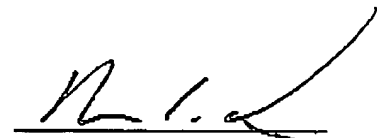
The period for response having expired on June 25, 2003, applicants hereby petition for a three month extension of time. The Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account 18-2056 the extension fee of \$930.00.

Conclusion

Applicants submit that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance, and thus urge the examiner to issue an early Notice of Allowance. Should the examiner have any issues concerning this reply or any other outstanding issues remaining in this application, applicants urge the examiner to contact the undersigned to expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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